



## The Bone and Joint Decade

Promoting musculoskeletal health

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*Keep people moving*

### The Bone and Joint Decade 2010 – 2020 Key Messages

The *Bone and Joint Decade* was created in 1998 and launched in 2000 with the aim of reducing the impact of musculoskeletal conditions on individuals and society in all countries across the globe.

It is an umbrella organisation that gains its strength from bringing together national and international professional, scientific and patient organisations. It is endorsed by the UN and WHO and support has been declared by over 60 governments.

Much progress has been made over the last decade. In a number of countries Musculoskeletal Conditions (MSC) has gained public and political priority and non-communicable diseases are slowly moving up the agenda in regional and global organisations such as the US NIH, EU, UN, and WHO. However, much remains to be done, the possibilities for prevention and treatment are not being fully realised.

The Decade has therefore renewed its mandate for the next decade until 2020 with the Vision "Keep People Moving"

"Our vision is a society where prevention, treatment and care of people with musculoskeletal disorders is of a high standard and consistently accessible in order to improve the health-related quality of life for people with, or at risk of, musculoskeletal disorders."

"The treatment and prevention of musculoskeletal disorders and injuries should be among the leading major health concerns in the minds, actions and funding priorities of international health agencies, governments, non-governmental organisations, medical and research communities, funders, media and the general public."

A Strategic Action Plan has been developed to concentrate efforts on achieving the objective of priority for bone and joint disorders.

The Strategic Plan was presented at The Bone and Joint Decade World Conference, Lund, 10-11 September 2010 and discussed in detail by the individual delegates and representatives of the National Action Networks and supporting organisations.

As a result of these round table discussions the most important and feasible actions that will gain priority for bone and joint disorders were identified and these will now be worked on at national, regional and international level.

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The Strategic Action Plan defines 8 programmes of work that are all aimed at the global objective of raising priority for musculoskeletal conditions on the global and national health agenda. The programmes are:

**1. Advocacy:** To raise awareness of public and policy makers of the burden of musculoskeletal conditions and what can be achieved by implementing effective prevention and treatment

**2. Partnership:** To develop sustainable networks at global, regional and national levels

**3. Surveillance:** To increase knowledge of the suffering and cost to society associated with musculoskeletal conditions

**4. Public and patient education:** To empower people to gain priority for their own care

**5. Prevention and control:** To improve access to cost-effective prevention and treatment

**6. Research:** To increase research that will advance understanding of musculoskeletal disorders and improve prevention and treatment

**7. Knowledge management:** To provide access to information that will support the objectives of the BJD

**8. Organisation fit for purpose:** To develop a sustainable global organisation able to carry out the mission, objectives and programmes of the Strategic Action Plan for 2010-2020

The Bone and Joint Decade 2010 – 2020 will draw on its unique strengths to deliver the Strategic Plan:

The Bone and Joint Decade is the only organisation that brings together **all** stakeholders across the globe, considering **all** musculoskeletal conditions and providing access to high-level policy makers

The Bone and Joint Decade is an umbrella organisation, linking networks of national organisations across the globe, which include those for health care professionals and patients, providing a unified voice and a global reach

The Bone and Joint Decade is focussed on health policy and evidence with a mandate to develop strategies and set the agenda, aimed at improving quality of life by implementing effective prevention and treatment

In conclusion the Mission of The Bone and Joint Decade 2010 -2020 is:

- to reduce the burden and cost of musculoskeletal disorders to individuals, carers and society
- to promote musculoskeletal health and musculoskeletal science worldwide

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